

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/687,533

Examiner

Samuel Broda

Applicant(s)

MARTY ET AL.

Art Unit

2123

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Applicants' Response mailed on 22 September 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5, 6-12, 14-16, 23-25, and 27-29.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☒ to Paper No./Mail Date 6.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 9/29/2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

SAMUEL BRODA, ESQ.
PRIMARY EXAMINER



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1. This communication is in response to Applicants' Response to Office Action Dated April 22, 2004 mailed on 22 September 2004. Claim 17 was amended; claims 5, 13, 19, and 26 were canceled. Claims 1-4, 6-12, 14-18, 20-25, and 27-29 are pending.

Withdrawal of Rejections Under Section 112

2. Applicants' arguments are sufficient to remove the rejections under Section 112, first paragraph.

Examiner's Amendment

3.1 An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to Applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

This Examiner's amendment corresponds to the cancellation without prejudice of two claims in response to the restriction of claims as described below. Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone conversation with Mr. James V. Mahon, Reg. No. 41,966, on 11 January 2005.

3.2 The application has been amended as follows:
Cancel claims 17-18 and 20-22.

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Reasons for Allowance

4. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The closest prior art of record shows:

(1) a CAD system including annotation placement rules governing the placement of annotation data (Watanabe et al, U. S. Patent 5,701,403);

(2) a three-dimensional model with three dimensional pointers that move or rotate with the model as the model is moved or rotated (Russell, Jr. et al, U. S. Patent 5,526,478);

(3) a CAD system including generating updated drawing documents having generated tag data and input for annotations (Harrison et al, U.S. Patent 6,611,725); and

(4) a graphical editor that constructs groupings of annotation graphics and object parts (Lieberman, "Graphical Annotation as a Visual Language for Specifying Generalization Relations").

4.1 Applicants' first set of claims consists of claims 1-4, 9-12, and 23-25.

Independent claim 1 is directed to a method for displaying representations of objects; independent claim 9 is the corresponding apparatus claim and independent claim 23 is the corresponding computer program product claim. Each independent claim identifies the distinct limitations of: "receiving input from a user specifying movement of said leader line" and "calculating a trace of possible placement points for attachment of the leader line to the object."

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Because the closest prior art does not appear to teach or suggest the calculation of a trace of possible placement points for attachment of the leader line, claims 1-4, 9-12, and 23-25 are deemed allowable.

4.2 Applicants' second set of claims consists of claims 6-8, 14-16, and 27-29.

Independent claim 6 is directed to a method for displaying representations of objects; independent claim 14 is the corresponding apparatus claim and independent claim 27 is the corresponding computer program product claim. Each independent claim identifies the distinct limitations of: "determining the type of said annotation, and retrieving annotation placement rules information stored in said system pertaining to said type of annotation" and "determining from said retrieved information whether the plane chosen by the user for said annotation is consistent with said retrieved information."

Because the closest prior art does not appear to teach or suggest the determination of plane consistency based on annotation placement rules, claims 6-8, 14-16, and 27-29 are deemed allowable.

5. Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Samuel Broda, whose telephone number is (571) 272-3709. The Examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Fridays from 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Kevin Teska can be reached at (571) 272-3716. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist, whose telephone number is (571) 272-2100.



**SAMUEL BRODA, ESQ.
PRIMARY EXAMINER**